



PORTLAND HARBOR CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP

OCTOBER 9, 2002

6-8 P.M.

800 NE OREGON STREET, ROOM 918

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

INTRODUCTIONS:

FACILITATOR:

Mark Burton

CAG MEMBERS PRESENT:

Neighborhood Associations

Cathy Crawford

University Park

Arrives 6:10

Robin Plance

St. Johns

Business:

Steve Gunther

Progressive Products and Services

Arrives 6:10

Recreation:

Tom McInnis

Environment:

Dorothy Shoemaker

Sierra Club

Billy Washington

EJAG

Public Health:

Joe Keating

Oregon Center for Environmental Health

Travis Williams

Willamette Riverkeeper

At Large:

Xander Patterson

Physicians for Social Responsibility

OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Eric Blischke

DEQ

Kim Cox

DEQ

Brandon Finn

City of Portland, Dan Saltzman's Office

Scott Fogarty

Willamette Riverkeeper

Sara Gardner

DEQ

USEPA SF



1436757

Trey Harbert	Port of Portland, Lower Willamette Group	
Libby McCulley	Willamette Riverkeeper	
Georgia Richmond	DHS	
Jim Robison	Citizen	
Mike Rosen	DEQ	
Mark Stephan	Washington State University, Vancouver	Arrives 7:10
David Stone	DHS	

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Minutes were unanimously approved without changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kim Cox – Eric Blischke is attending tonight's meeting to answer questions regarding DEQ's comments on the workplan.
Kim is leaving DEQ and going to work for the City of Portland. She will still be working closely with the CAG in her new role. Sara Gardner is one of the new contacts, along with Mike Rosen.

Cathy Crawford and Steve Gunther arrive.

NEXT MEETING:

Nov. 13, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Robin will be late to this meeting.

AGENDA CHANGES:

Eric's DEQ presentation will be during the Evaluation Committee's presentation.

MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION:

Discussion of how to fill recreation seat. Joe will recruit people to fill the slot. Travis suggested Billy move to the recreation seat and Travis move to environment position. Billy would prefer to stay in the environment position. Steve suggested we revisit the issue of membership and form a membership committee. Several people suggested the group wait until more people can be recruited. Robin would like to make sure that the recreation group is adequately represented.

Xander Patterson arrives.

Mark asked for nominations for recreation seat.

MOTION: Nominations go out as soon as possible over the listserv and the decision will be made at the next meeting. (DS,RP)

Yes: 8

No: 0

Abstain: 1 (TM)

Motion passes.

Steve suggested a membership committee would review attendance, vacant seats, etc. Steve volunteers to be on this committee. The issue will be discussed at the end of the meeting if there is time.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Scott Fogarty arrives.

At the last meeting there was discussion of committee membership and whether or not only CAG members could be on committees. Several people voiced support for only CAG members being on committees.

MOTION: Formal membership of committees would be CAG members with advisors able to participate but not vote. Advisors would not be CAG members. (JK,RP)

Billy expressed concern that this is exclusive. Jim also expressed concern that, as someone who comes to all the meetings but is not an official member, he does not have an official role in the CAG. This does not encourage people who are not on the CAG to participate on a consistent basis. Robin pointed out that the onus of communicating to the public and their groups is on CAG members.

Joe withdraws his motion and rephrases it.

MOTION: Committees will be comprised of CAG members. Committees will seek outside advice. (JK,RP)

Yes: 8

No: 0

Abstain: 1 (TM)

MOTION passes.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Evaluation Committee: Dorothy Shoemaker

The Evaluation Committee would like to set up a meeting to discuss the workplan and other issues. The meeting is on Friday, Oct. 18 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be at Dorothy's house. She will email directions. Eric is invited to attend to provide information to the committee.

Finance Committee: Travis Williams

A logo and letterhead have been developed for the CAG. Willamette Riverkeeper's address is on the letterhead. There were no objections to this. WRK covered the letterhead and logo development cost. Billy knows some people who might be willing to help out the CAG and put on a fundraiser.

MOTION: Billy go forward with his contacts and report back to the committee with the outcome. (RP,XP)

Yes: 8

No: 0

Abstain: 1 (TM)

Motion passes.

Scott asked about the CAG's legal status. Steve clarified that the CAG is currently an unincorporated non-profit. WRK or some other group can be the fiscal agent or the CAG could incorporate. There is a manual on the EPA website about running a CAG and has an appendix about how to apply for 501(c)(3) status. There was discussion about the difference between the CAG being it's own 501(c)(3) or using WRK as a fiscal agent.

MOTION: Ask Willamette Riverkeeper to be the fiscal agent for the CAG. (JK,XP)

Yes: 8

No: 0

Abstain: 1 (TM)

Dorothy spoke positively about her experience using a fiscal agent in other groups. Steve asked that WRK not charge a fee. Travis said it would require some consultation with the board, but his inclination is to say there wouldn't be a fee. This may change over time, and there will eventually need to be some formal definition to WRK's role as fiscal agent.

Education and Outreach: Joe Keating

Joe is hoping to set up a press conference in the near future to identify the group and the issues. Joe spoke to the North Portland Press who would like to work extensively with the CAG and do a story about the group in the very near future. Getting the word out is the focus of this committee.

The committee will look at tools – website, basic printed material, etc, needed to do outreach and engage the community. Letting people know about the contaminated fish problem might be a first issue. Polluter pays is another – encouraging Smith and Wyden to support the polluter pays concept. The committee might also work to identify companies who are not in the Lower Willamette Group actively participating in the process and encourage them to get involved.

Specific request: Joe would like the CAG to give him the authority to sit down with the editor of the North Portland Press to have an interview so they can write a story about the CAG.

Discussion: Cathy pointed out the need to use other papers including the St. John's Review, The Skanner, The Observer, Out and About, Willamette Week, etc. She is concerned that the North Portland Press has an unfair competitive advantage over other papers in the area. The Education and Outreach Committee will develop a media plan to do a press conference and other media related activities. They will try to work with as many papers and other media outlets as possible. Billy also suggested public access TV. Steve cautioned about coming across as advocates for any one issue outside the mission statement.

Mark Stephan arrives, 7:10.

In a straw poll, the committee expressed unanimous support for the general plan of the outreach committee.

MOTION: Joe have the authority to do the interview with the North Portland Press. (TW,SG)

Yes: 7

No: 1 (CC)

Abstain: 1 (TM)

EPA COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT:

Discussion of whether or not the CAG supports the agreement. The team who has put the application forward will withdraw it if the CAG does not support the agreement.

MOTION: CAG support the proposal put forward by Mark Stephan. (JK,RP)

Yes: 6

No: 1 (SG)

Abstain: 2 (CC, TM)

Discussion: This is an opportunity to partner with folks who can provide the CAG some assistance. Steve felt that this is not an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars. Travis pointed out that the role of the CAG is not to reduce federal waste and these are funds that have been allocated for this type of work that will be spent regardless of whether the CAG accepts them or not. There was a general feeling that it would be of benefit to the CAG to take advantage of the fund. The intent of the research team is to be as useful to the CAG as possible.

Mark re-emphasized their desire to work with the CAG to provide useful information and assistance.

DEQ DISCUSSION:

Eric explained State's role in Superfund as managing upland sites. Another key element in the State's role is the assurance that state laws and standards are upheld in the clean-up process because there are differences between State and Federal laws and standards. DEQ also reviews the workplan for technical content.

Highlights of comments:

- Characterization plan was not adequate.
- Focus on fish tissue sampling – too much emphasis at the expense of other important issues
- There is no methodology for correlating sediment contamination and fish contamination
- Surface water contamination evaluations – inappropriate sampling methodologies
- DEQ felt LWG should look at all data to identify areas of concern, not just Level 1
- Evaluation of effects on benthic communities not adequate
- Objectives and rationale are unclear as to how they fit in with the rest of the RI/FS
- Need for early actions are not adequately addressed
- It is unclear how the FS will move forward based on Round 1 data

DEQ distributed their complete comments which are available from Sara Gardner. WRK has a few leftover copies as well.

Certain plants will be looked at – Wapato and other important plants. DEQ is collecting sediments from storm drains, etc for evaluation regarding upland sites. Billy expressed concern that the agencies are not distinguishing among different types of fish species (migratory and non-migratory, etc). Trey said LWG is looking for a mechanism to survey sturgeon through ODFW rather than through the Superfund process.

This item will continue to be discussed at the next meeting.

AGENDA SETTING PROCESS:

Dorothy had mentioned in an email that she felt there should be a Chair of the CAG to set the agenda and carry out administrative duties.

MOTION: Travis is interim chair of the CAG. (RP,BW).

The chair will set the agenda and do other administrative duties. There was discussion about what interim meant in this context. **The motion was tabled to the first part of the next meeting.** Robin will not be here at the beginning of the next meeting but the motion stands.

MEETING ADJOURNS: 8:10